(b) if so, whether his Ministry is also considering three distinct units to perform ground-handling works at airports across the country; and

(c) whether the Group of Ministers has already endorsed the proposal to set up an Airport Economic Regulatory Authority and whether issues concerning the Defence Ministry have been sorted out?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) The guidelines relating to various aspects of civil aviation are reviewed from time to time to address the evolving needs of the sector.

(b) As per the revised policy approved by the Government, the ground handling services at specified airports will be provided by the 3 distinct units, namely, the respective airport operator itself, or its Joint Venture Company; the subsidiary companies of the national carriers, *viz.,* Air India and Indian Airlines or their Joint Venture and by any other ground handling service provider selected through competitive bidding by the airport operator. At all other airports, in addition to above entities, self handling will be permitted to the airlines excluding foreign airlines.

(c) Yes, Sir.

**Loss incurred by Airports**

3513. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of airports in the country are incurring losses during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of the losses incurred (Rupees in Lakhs) by each airport during the year 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 are : Port Blair (295.10, 357.43 & 284.88), Cuddapah (5.91, 8.06 & 11.66), Rajamundry (52.35, 137.78 & 62.38), Tirupathi (290.04,401.34 & 407.57), Vijaywada (158.46,

332.48 & 376.56), Vishakhapatnam (340.34,270.79 & 298.31), Passighat (4.09,4.09 & 0.00), Tezu (24.58,19.02 & 19.72), Dibrugarh (763.20,412.79 & 546.84), Guwahati (3360.67, 5109.67 & 3711.61), Jorhat (263.88,172.37 & 181.60), Lilabari (287.00, 203.27 & 290.09), Rupsi (2.15, 2.15 & 0.00), Silchar (223.52, 149.48 & 189.60), Tezpur (92.26,61.73 & 100.83), Gaya (295.89, 642.23 & 823.82), Patna (1086.27, 1193.64 & 1239.63), Chandigarh (227.85,279.75 & 258.84), Raipur (277.75, 362.31 & 311.76), Delhi(Safdarjung) (715.04, 702.07& 1050.21), Bhavnagar(185.17,356,32 & 439.32), Bhuj (124.21, 132.61 & 326.12), Jamnagar (48.32, 77.73 & 32.68), Kandla (48.82, 56.78 & 89.86), Keshod (45.64, 62.13 & 109.26), Porbandar (94.95,190.57 & 207.84), Surat (25.37,28.77 & 37.67), Rajkot (264.48, 307.32 & 539.28), Vadodara (235.22,199.60 & 563.40), Kangra (82.61,196.10 & 380.96), Kullu (219.52,298.67 & 362.29), Shimla (185.18, 267.04 & 312.95), Jammu (268.14, 519.51 &351.70), Leh (56.35,10.83& 166.49), Srinagar (134.25, 34.53 & 116.86), Ranchi (590.84, 665.90 & 769.10), Belgaum (176.82, 158.65 & 223.65), Hubli (22.42, 130.81 & 128.88), Mangalore (304.77, 636.40 & 1114.18), Agatti (78.00, 130.04 & 183.66), Bhopal (599.04, 888.40 & 1060.24), Gwalior (172.81, 205.85 & 245.27), Indore (52.89, 315.87 & 436.25), Jabalpur (133.82, 370.19 & 404.94), Khajuraho (421.78,673.28 & 821.25), Aurangabad (251.45,362.33 &431.62), Gondia (0.00,0.00 & 3.24), Kolahpur (0.00,0.06 & 5.12), Nagpur (1524.00,2918.72 & 2439.54), Imphal (604.26,275.38 *&* 262.82), Shillong (117.33, 115.59 & 123.26), Lengpui (133.55, 61.22 & 72.83), Dimapur (324.32, 266,79 & 357.77), Bhubneshwar (975.45, 1470.95 & 357.11), Jharsuguda (47.39, 50.56 & 74.28), Pondicherry (20.43, 29.86 & 42.56), Amritsar(601.05, 755.58 & 500.93), Ludhiana (134.08), 142.91 & 124.33), Pathankot(47.03,170.30&288.31),Jaipur(668.00,1275.75& 1195.91), Jaiselmer(6.37,45.70&26.15), Jodhpur (180.03,248.89&292.37), Kota (86.50, 11.89 & 43.80), Nal (Bikaner) (46.15, 115.39 & 94.70), Udaipur (385.08,408.44 & 592.81), Coimbatore (173.53, 21.07 & 20.10), Madurai (204.61, 399.34 & 454.72), Salem (17.07, 22.48 & 25.08), Tiruchirapalli (450.67,498.77 & 457.27), Tuticorin (22.70,28.08 & 31.69), Vellore (6.75), 5.39 & 6.88), Agartala (1361.24, 848.77 & 688.22) Kailashahar (11.71, 11.71 & 1.81), Agra (278.56.466.46 &414.26), Allahabad (1007.25,1613.44 & 192.38), Gorakhpur (0.83, 3.37 & 4.28), Kanpur (159.42, 173.90 & 205.43), Lucknow (1048.75,1080.06 & 1491.36), Varanasi (895.31,1455.74 & 1491.49), Dehradun (110.12,126.78 & 144.72), Pantnagar(81.23,89.58 & 103.98), Bagdogra (633.99, 129.12 & 23.61), Balurghat (4.48, 4.07 &

5.89), Behala (17.47,20.30 & 21.87), Cooch Behar (12.59,12.30 & 23.05) and Malda (14.08,6.38 & 18.55) respectively.

(c) In order to generate non-traffic revenue, a number of commercial facilities have been augmented at the airports like introduction of Fast Food Outlets, Cyber Cafe, Hotel Reservation Facility, ATM, STD/ISD Outlets, Tea/Coffee Vending Machine and newspaper and magazine vending machines. Consultants have been engaged for suggesting improvements in generating non-traffic revenue at the airports.

**Retirement of Air hostesses**

3514. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan to retire air hostesses above forty years of age in Indian Airlines;

(b) if so, what are the details of the scheme;

(c) the steps being taken to ensure that there is no shortage of air hostesses; and

(d) what are the financial implications and what are the terms and conditions of new recruitments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) No, Sir.

(b)to(d) Do not arise.

**Flights between India and Pakistan**

†3515. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision has been taken to increase the number of destinations in order to enhance the number of flights between India and Pakistan;

(b) if so, the new destinations selected for the purpose;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.